

Trouble At Work Questions

Note: For each number, make sure you have a sentence in your answer for each question mark. If the number has 2 question marks, you should have 2 sentences for your answer.

Story 1 - Jim Worth

- (1) What would you advise Jim to do about Kevin's behavior?
- (2) To what extent is Jim responsible for what's happened?
- (3) If Jim reports Kevin to Orlando and Orlando fires Kevin, is that Jim's fault? Should he feel guilty?
- (4) Have you ever had a similar problem when working in a team situation with other students? Without mentioning names, how was the situation resolved? How did you feel?
- (5) How does someone who avoids responsibility on the job affect other employees? The boss? The work atmosphere?
- (6) How important is communication between employees? Between the boss and employees?
- (7) Kevin also says that covering is "what friends are for." Is he right about that? Should friends always help out friends?

Story 2 - Michelle Vargas

- (1) Michelle has a number of options: she can do what Bob asks, she can refuse, she can report Bob to management, or she can quit. What do you think the consequences would be in each course of action? What would you advise her to do?
- (2) How did Michelle get in this spot in the first place? Does she bear any responsibility for her problem?
- (3) Does Michelle have any other options? Is there someone else she can go to?
- (4) Can you think of other situations in which a boss' sense of right and wrong might conflict with your own? What should be done under those circumstances?
- (5) What are your options in the workplace if you don't get along with or have a specific problem with your boss?

Story 3 - Barry Johnson

- (1) Is Barry right to feel hurt and upset? Why?
- (2) Should Barry believe what Ray said about being promoted?
- (3) What do you think will happen if Barry stays on the job?
- (4) Would Barry be better off quitting? What if he can't afford to?
- (5) Are there times when it's best to "cut your losses" on a job and leave?
- (6) If Barry quits, what do you think will happen on his next job?
- (7) Was Ms. Koulian fair in her assessment of Barry? Of Ray? Who should have been promoted? Why?
- (8) What advice would you give Barry? What advice would you give Ray in his new job as supervisor?
- (9) Can Barry change his attitudes and his relationships at work? Should he try? And if so, how?